



#23

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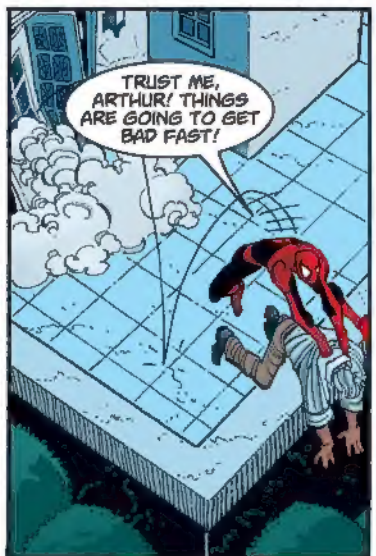
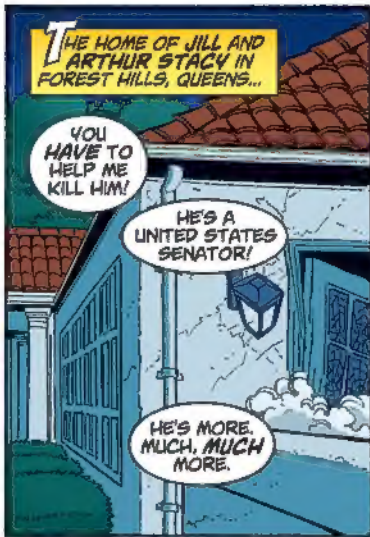
THE AMAZING

# SPIDER-MAN



MACKIE  
ROMITA JR  
HANNA







A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY AN IRRADIATED SPIDER FROM WHICH HE DERIVED THE ARACHNID'S INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. WHEN A BURGALAR KILLED HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN, A GRIEF-STRIKEN PETER VOWED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS FELLOW MAN, BECAUSE HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. STAN LEE PRESENTS:

**THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!**

HOWARD MACKIE JOHN ROMITA Jr. SCOTT HANNA  
story and art

GREGORY WRIGHT  
colors

RS & COMICRAFT's  
TROY PETERI  
letters

RALPH  
MACCHIO  
editor  
BOB HARRAS  
chief

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GENUINE MAN FROM

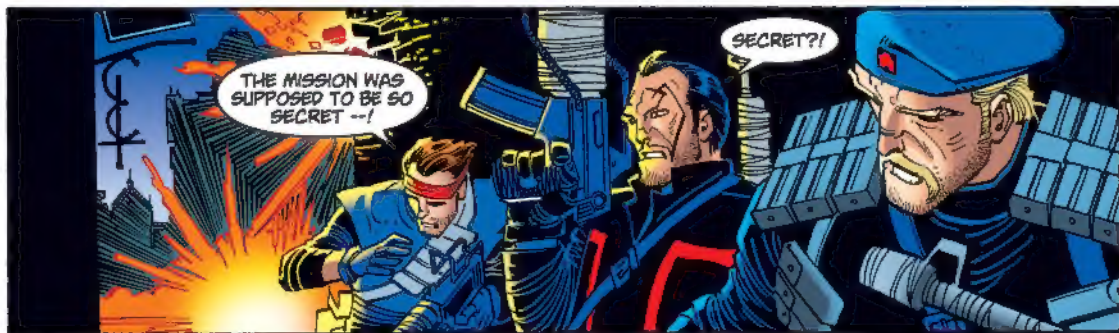
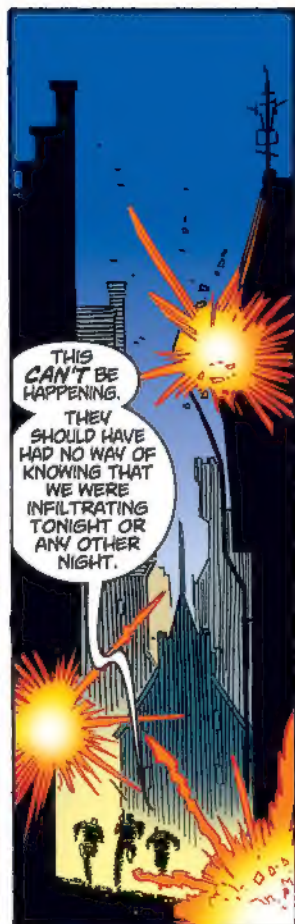
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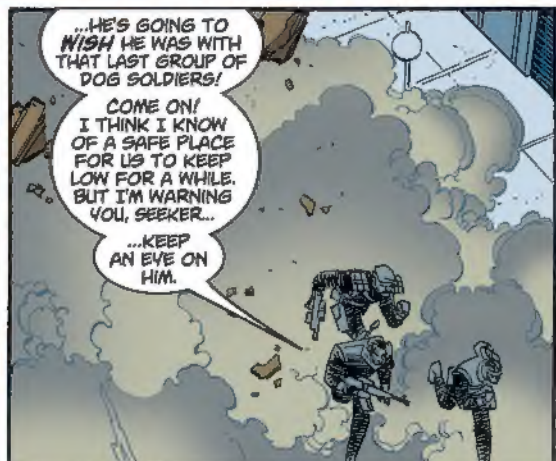
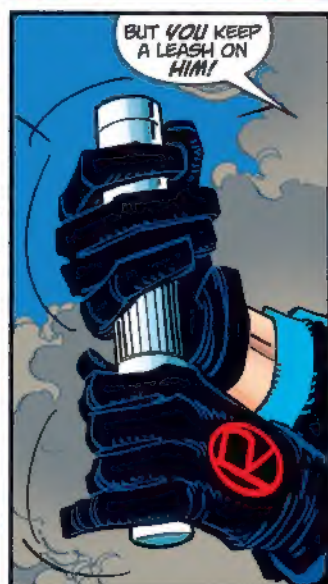
HOW MANY TIMES?



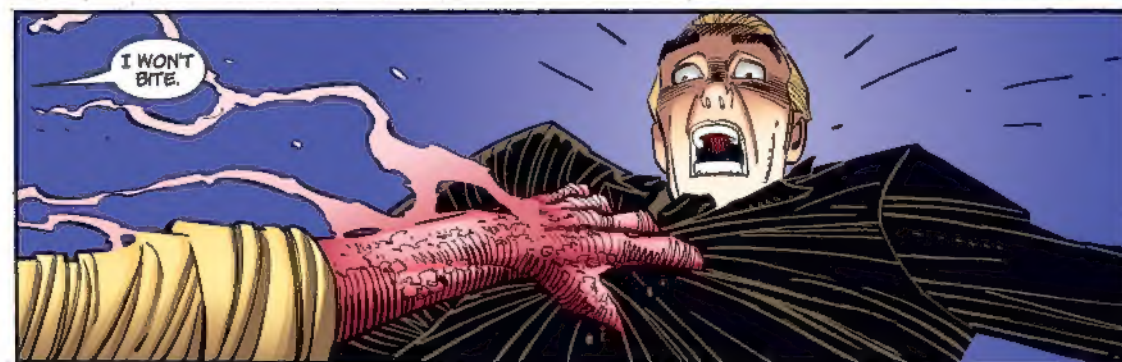
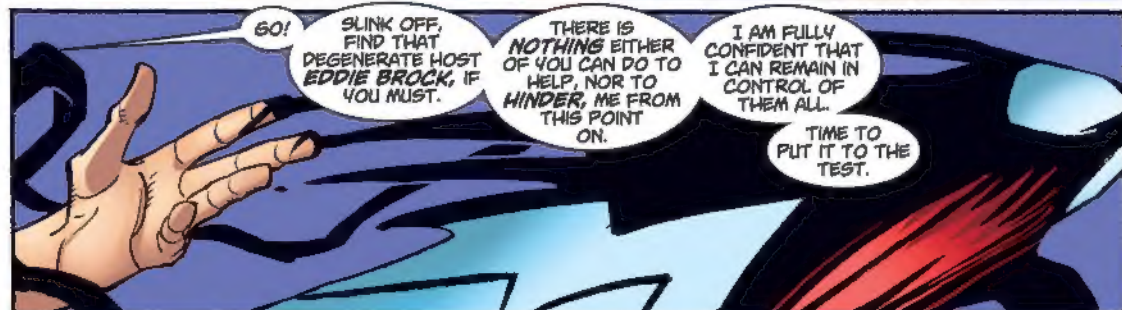










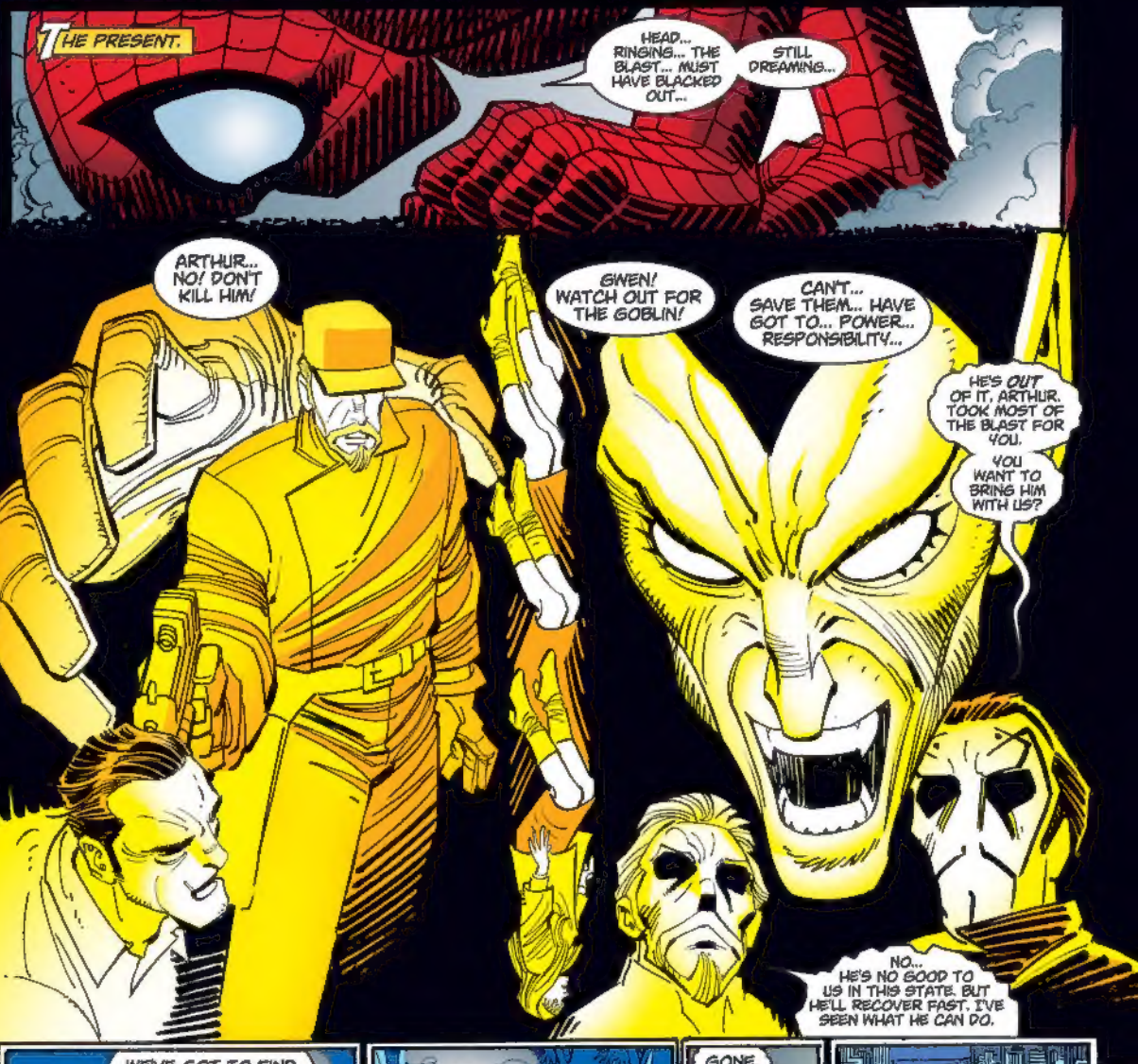






BUT  
THAT'S ABOUT  
THE ONLY THING  
I'M NOT GOING  
TO DO!





THE PRESENT.

HEAD...  
RINGING... THE  
BLAST... MUST  
HAVE BLACKED  
OUT...

STILL  
DREAMING...

ARTHUR...  
NO! DON'T  
KILL HIM!

GIVEN!  
WATCH OUT FOR  
THE GOBLIN!

CANT...  
SAVE THEM... HAVE  
GOT TO... POWER...  
RESPONSIBILITY...

HE'S OUT  
OF IT, ARTHUR.  
TOOK MOST OF  
THE BLAST FOR  
YOU.  
YOU  
WANT TO  
BRING HIM  
WITH US?

NO...  
HE'S NO GOOD TO  
US IN THIS STATE. BUT  
HE'LL RECOVER FAST. I'VE  
SEEN WHAT HE CAN DO.



WE'VE GOT TO FIND  
MY KIDS... PAUL AND  
JILL... BEFORE WARD  
DOES.

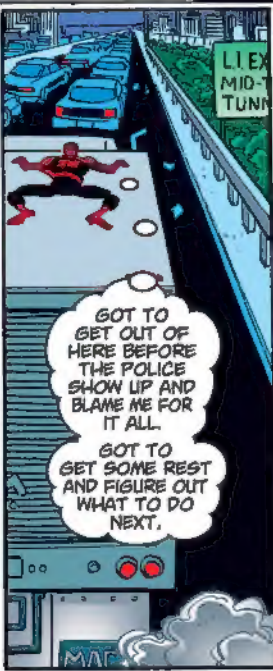
THEN WE'LL  
GO AFTER WARD  
DIRECTLY.



ARTHUR...  
NO... YOU DON'T  
WANT TO DO THIS...  
DON'T WANT TO  
KILL HIM...  
YOU...

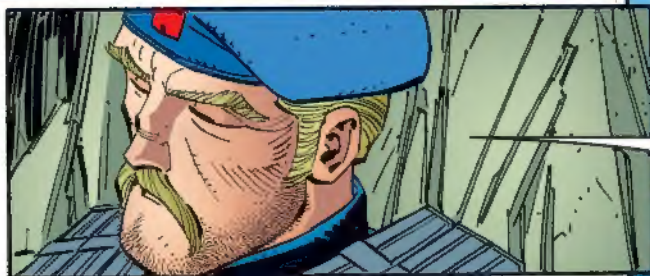


GONE.  
AND I'M  
TOO WEAK TO  
FOLLOW.

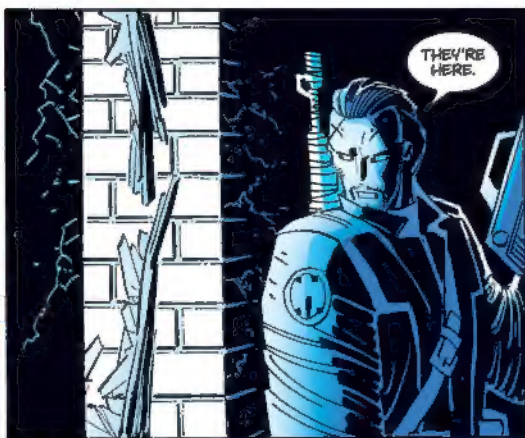
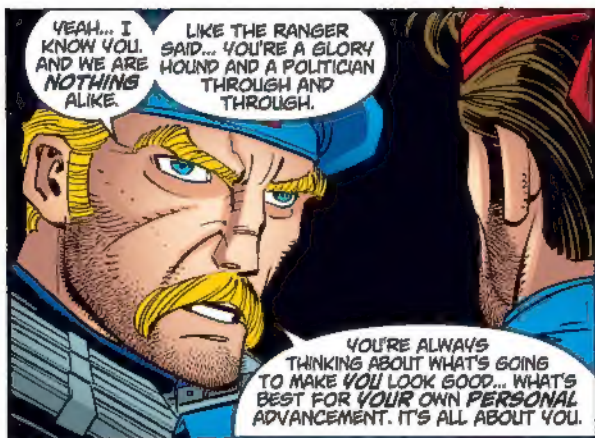


GOT TO  
GET OUT OF  
HERE BEFORE  
THE POLICE  
SHOW UP AND  
BLAME ME FOR  
IT ALL.  
GOT TO  
GET SOME REST  
AND FIGURE OUT  
WHAT TO DO  
NEXT.







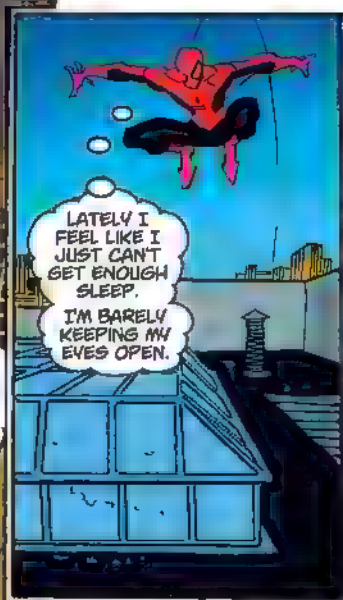




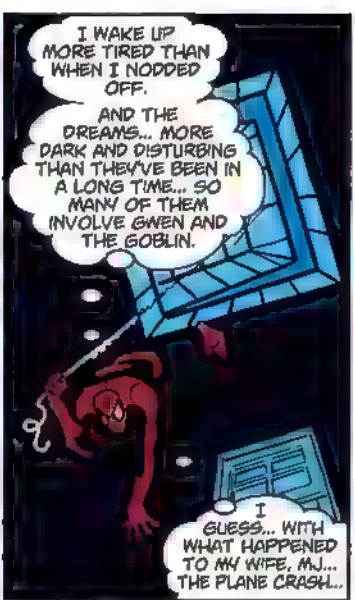


THE PRESENT.

MAN! I AM EXHAUSTED.  
AND IT'S NOT JUST FROM GETTING CAUGHT IN AN EXPLOSION TONIGHT.

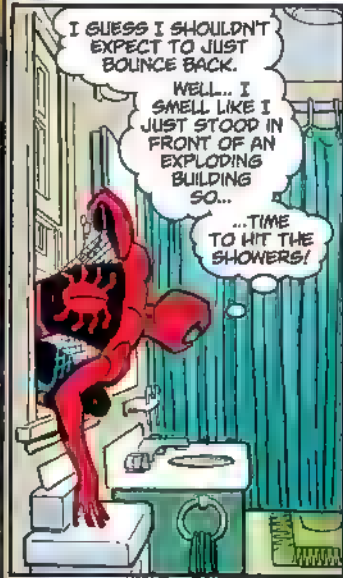


LATELY I FEEL LIKE I JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP.  
I'M BARELY KEEPING MY EYES OPEN.

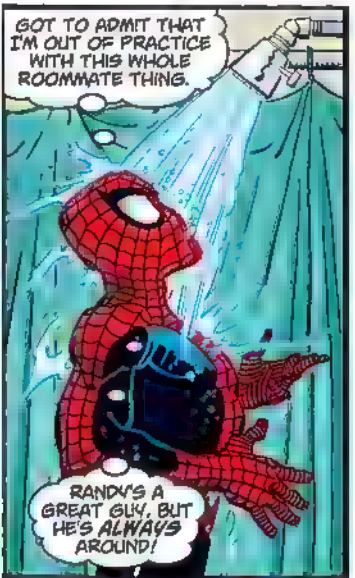


I WAKE UP MORE TIRED THAN WHEN I NODDED OFF.  
AND THE DREAMS... MORE DARK AND DISTURBING THAN THEY'VE BEEN IN A LONG TIME... SO MANY OF THEM INVOLVE GWEN AND THE GOBLIN.

I GUESS... WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO MY WIFE, MJ... THE PLANE CRASH...



I GUESS I SHOULDN'T EXPECT TO JUST BOUNCE BACK.  
WELL... I SMELL LIKE I JUST STOOD IN FRONT OF AN EXPLODING BUILDING SO...  
...TIME TO HIT THE SHOWERS!



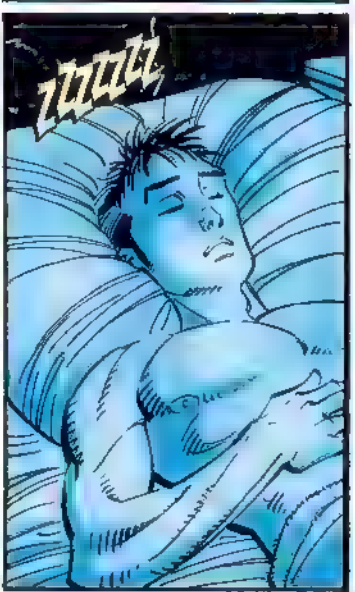
GOT TO ADMIT THAT I'M OUT OF PRACTICE WITH THIS WHOLE ROOMMATE THING.

RANDY'S A GREAT GUY, BUT HE'S ALWAYS AROUND!



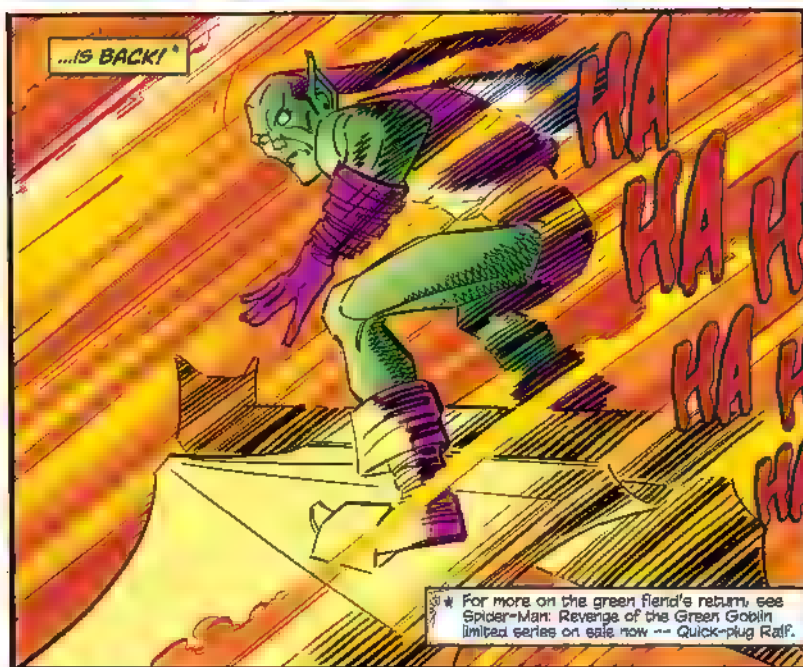
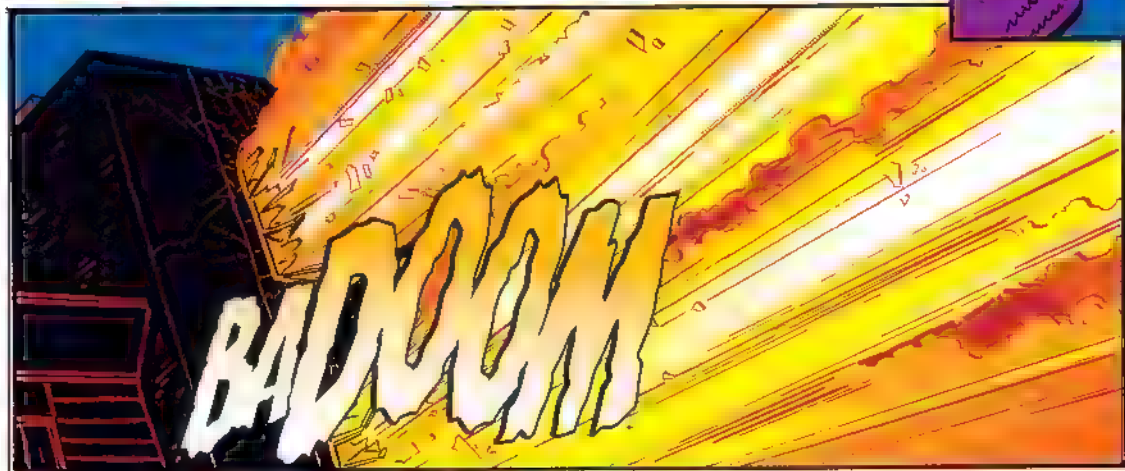
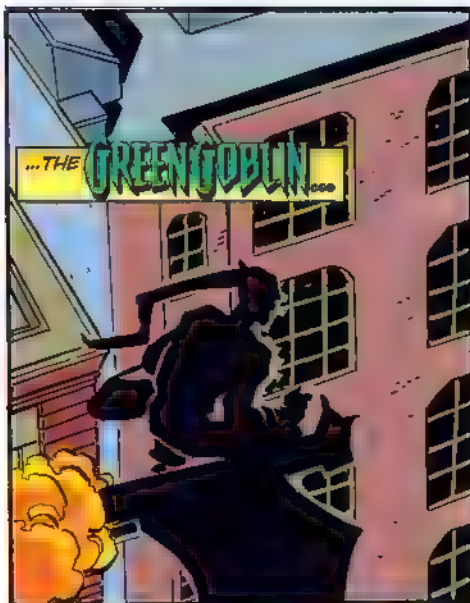
AND I'M NOT LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY HE STUMBLES ON THE SPIDER-MAN DUDS AND I'VE GOT TO TRY AND EXPLAIN HOW IT'S JUST A BAD HALLOWEEN COSTUME.

OH, WELL...



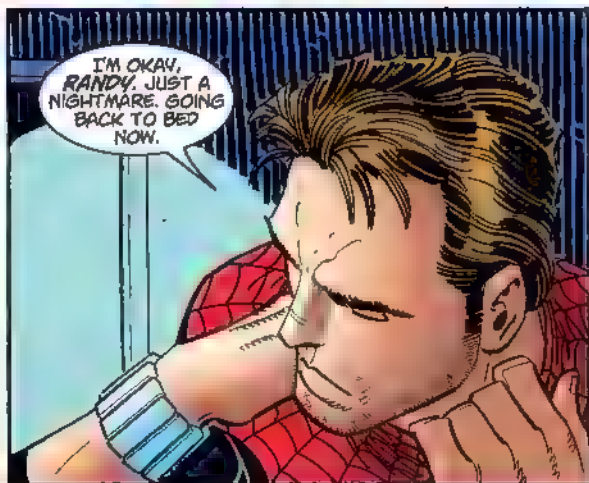
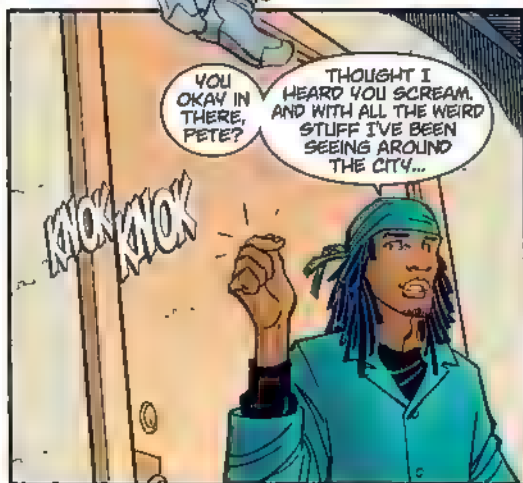
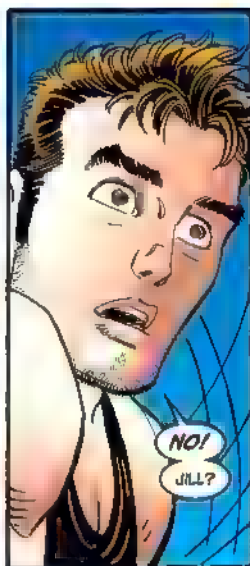
ZZZZZZ





\* For more on the green fiend's return, see Spider-Man: Revenge of the Green Goblin limited series on sale now -- Quick-plug Ralf.





"WHERE THE --?"







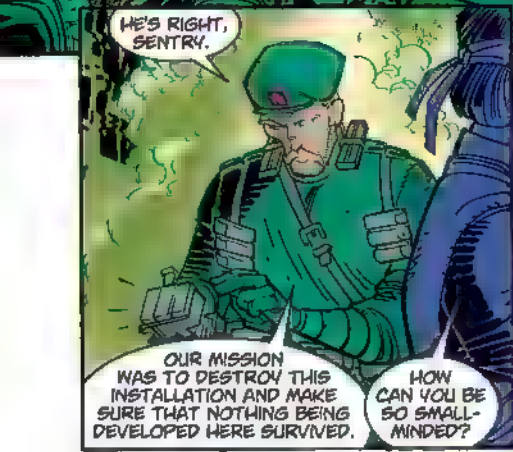
THE PAST.

I'LL HAND IT TO YOU, SENTRY, YOU GOT US IN. NOW LET'S WRAP IT AND BLOW IT UP

YOU WANT TO DESTROY THIS?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING AT?

NOPE! AND I CAN'T SAY I CARE.



HE'S RIGHT, SENTRY.

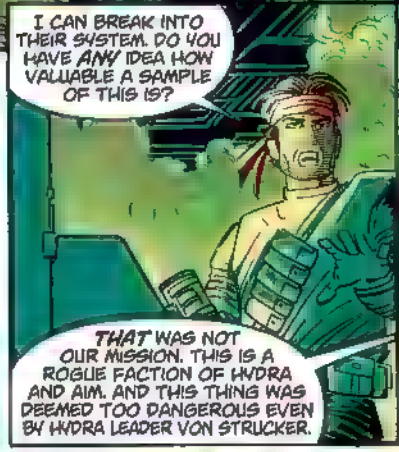
OUR MISSION WAS TO DESTROY THIS INSTALLATION AND MAKE SURE THAT NOTHING BEING DEVELOPED HERE SURVIVED.

HOW CAN YOU BE SO SMALL-MINDED?



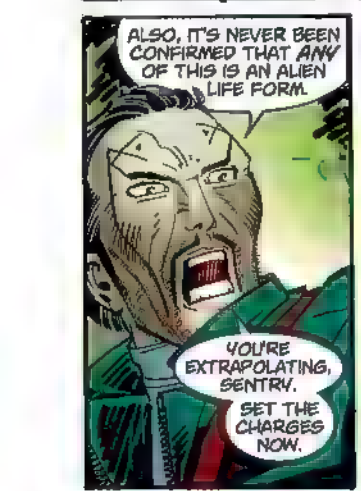
THE HYDRA SCIENTISTS WORKING HERE WERE DEVELOPING A BIO-PATHOGEN DERIVED FROM AN ALIEN LIFE FORM.

DID YOU HEAR ME? AN ALIEN!



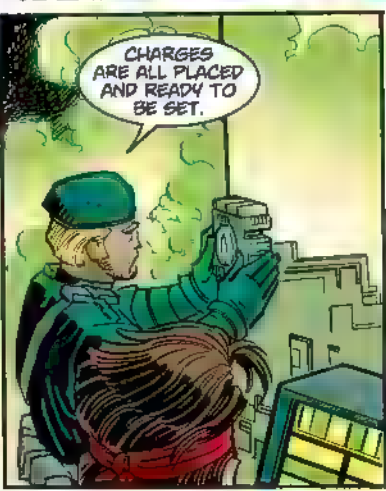
I CAN BREAK INTO THEIR SYSTEM. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW VALUABLE A SAMPLE OF THIS IS?

THAT WAS NOT OUR MISSION. THIS IS A ROGUE FACTION OF HYDRA AND AIM, AND THIS THING WAS DEEMED TOO DANGEROUS EVEN BY HYDRA LEADER VON STRUCKER.



ALSO, IT'S NEVER BEEN CONFIRMED THAT ANY OF THIS IS AN ALIEN LIFE FORM.

YOU'RE EXTRAPOLATING, SENTRY. SET THE CHARGES NOW.



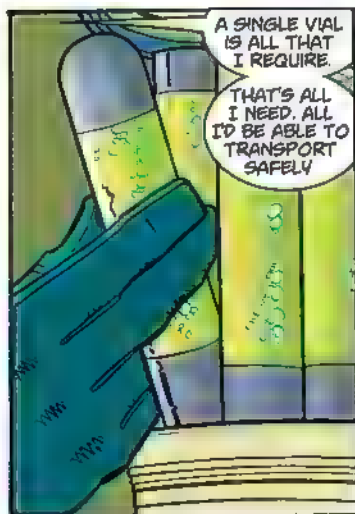
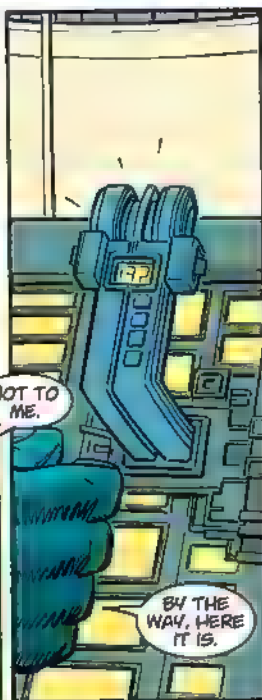
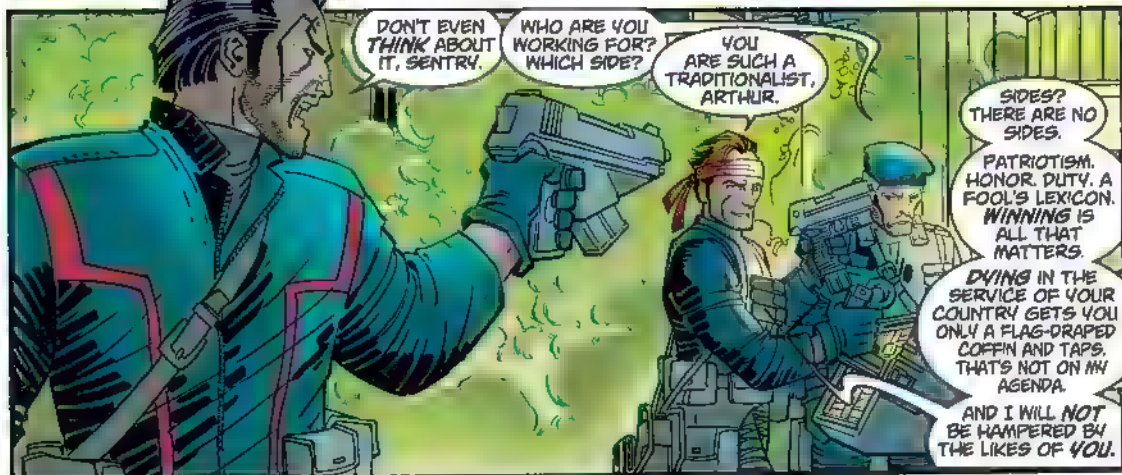
CHARGES ARE ALL PLACED AND READY TO BE SET.



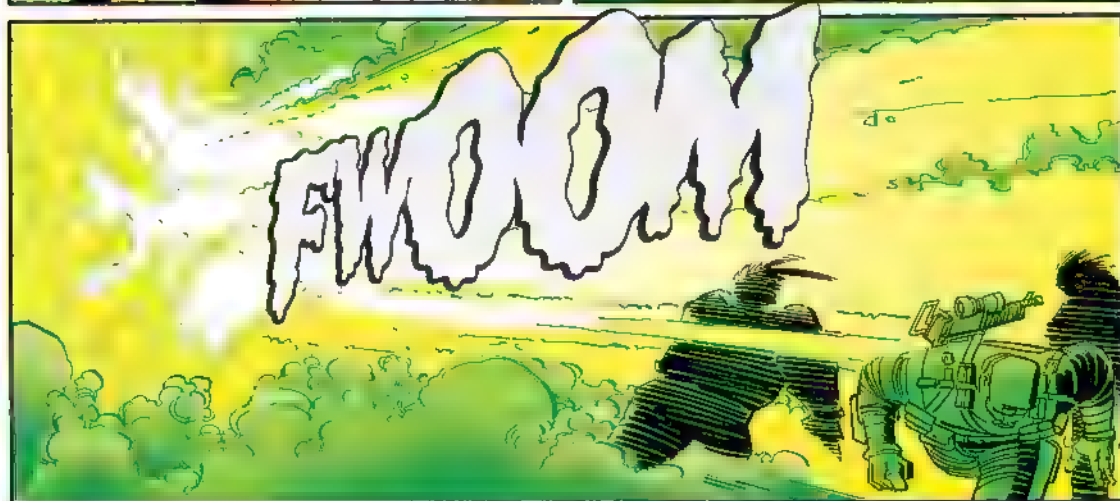
THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE OF PLANS, GENTLEMEN.

CLIK

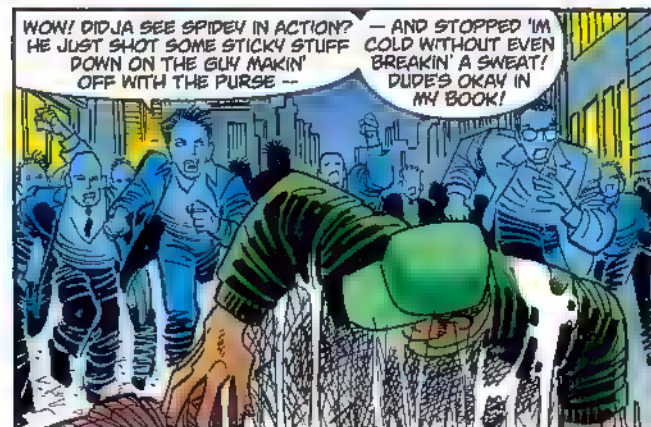
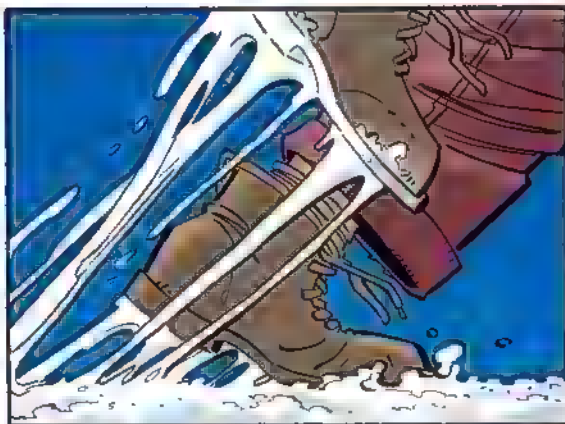




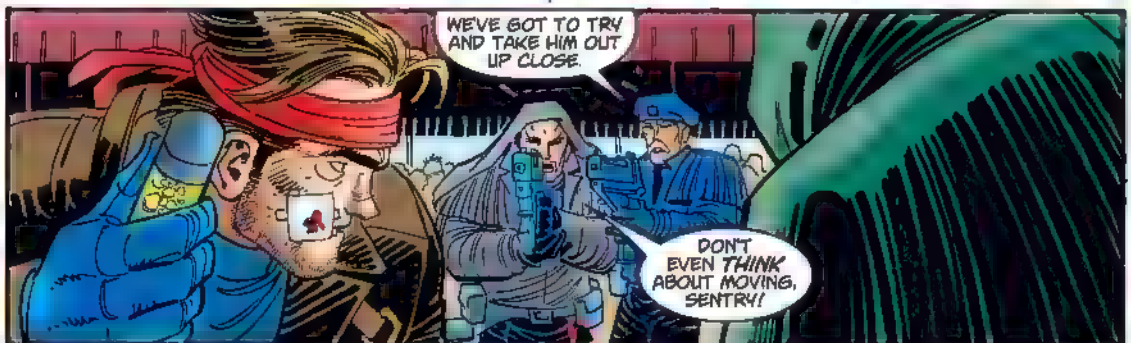
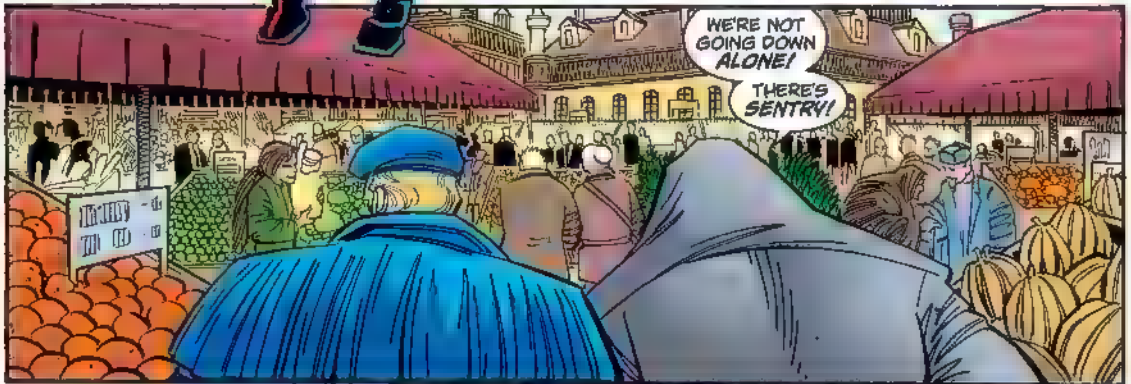
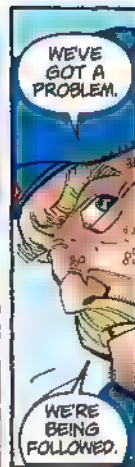
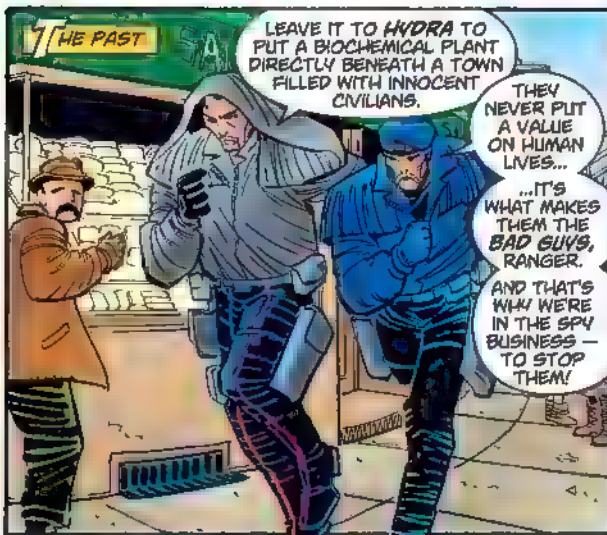




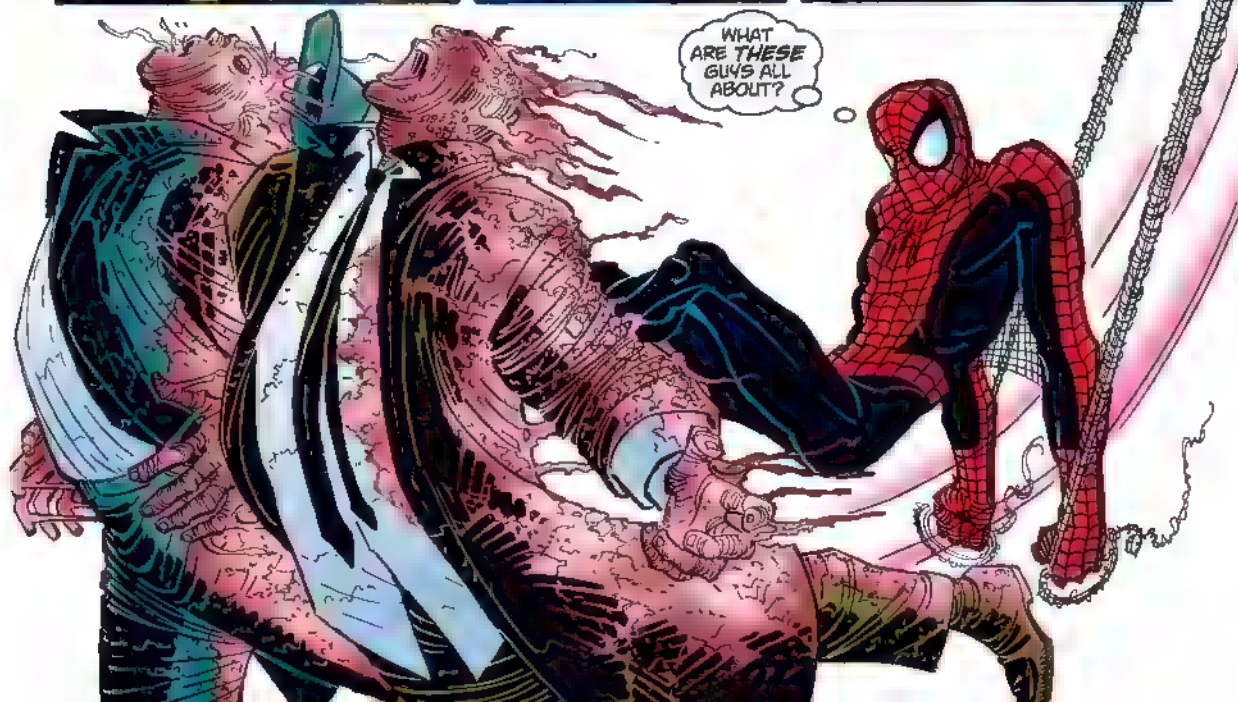
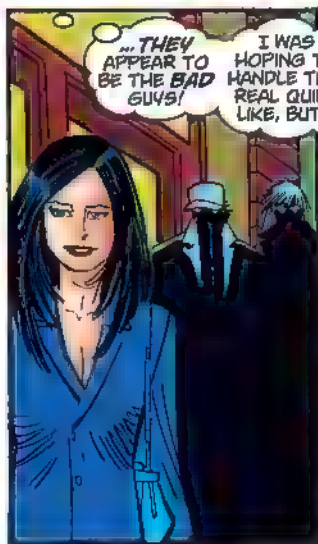




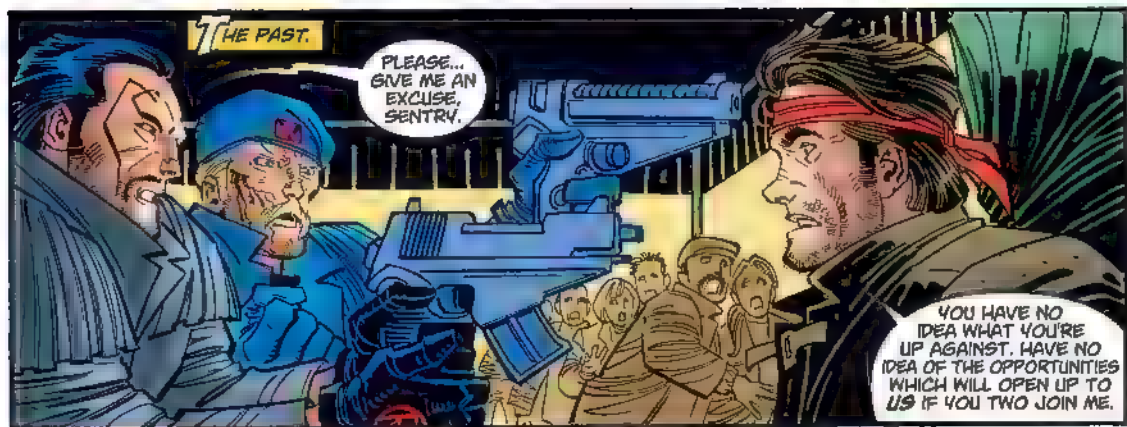












THE PAST.

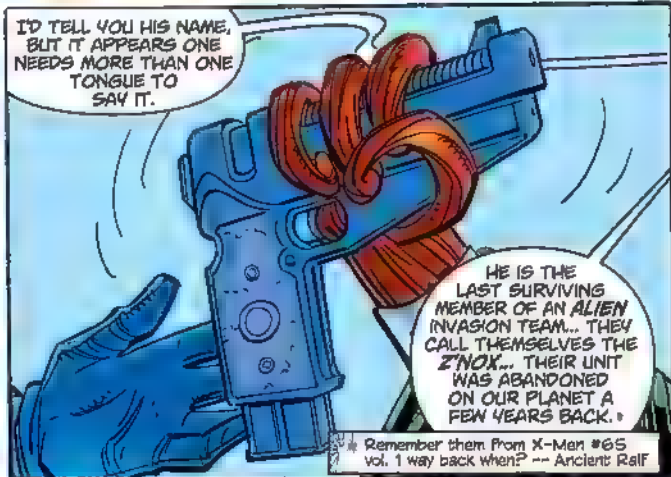
PLEASE...  
GIVE ME AN  
EXCUSE,  
SENTRY.

YOU HAVE NO  
IDEA WHAT YOU'RE  
UP AGAINST. HAVE NO  
IDEA OF THE OPPORTUNITIES  
WHICH WILL OPEN UP TO  
US IF YOU TWO JOIN ME.



OVER  
MY DEAD  
BODY.

THAT  
TOO CAN BE  
ARRANGED.  
ALLOW ME  
TO INTRODUCE MY  
ASSOCIATE.



I'D TELL YOU HIS NAME,  
BUT IT APPEARS ONE  
NEEDS MORE THAN ONE  
TONGUE TO  
SAY IT.

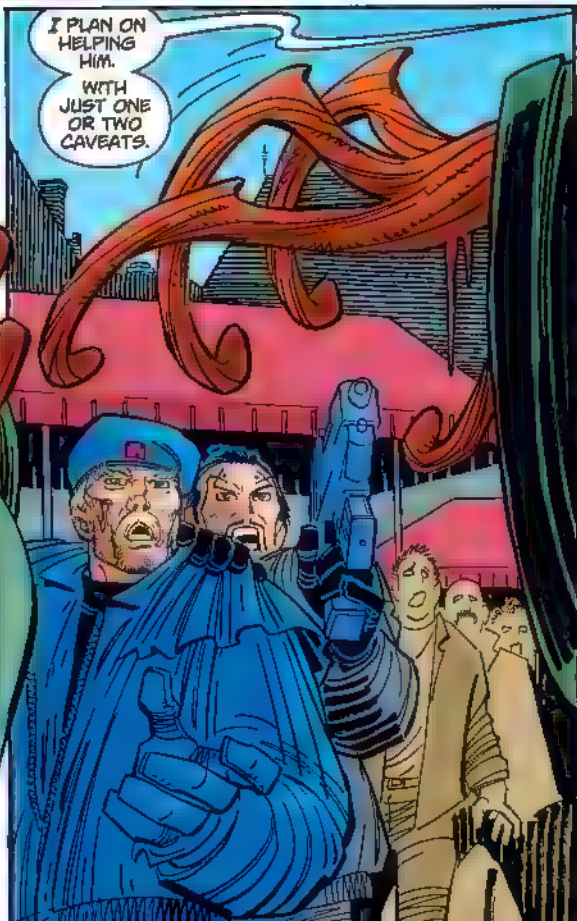
HE IS THE  
LAST SURVIVING  
MEMBER OF AN ALIEN  
INVASION TEAM... THEY  
CALL THEMSELVES THE  
Z'NOX... THEIR UNIT  
WAS ABANDONED  
ON OUR PLANET A  
FEW YEARS BACK.

\* Remember them from X-Men #65  
vol. 1 way back when? -- Ancient Ralf



IT WAS  
FROM THE DNA  
OF ONE OF HIS FALLEN  
BRETHREN THAT HYDRA  
WAS ABLE TO CREATE  
THE PATHOGEN.

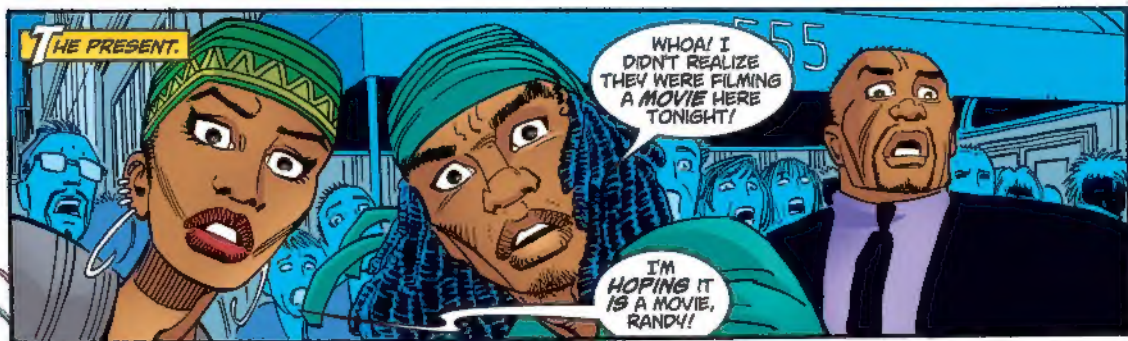
HE'D LIKE  
TO EXTRACT HIS  
OWN POUND OF FLESH  
FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO  
THE REST OF HIS TEAM...  
I BELIEVE HIS MATE WAS  
ON BOARD THEIR SHIP  
WHEN IT BLEW UP



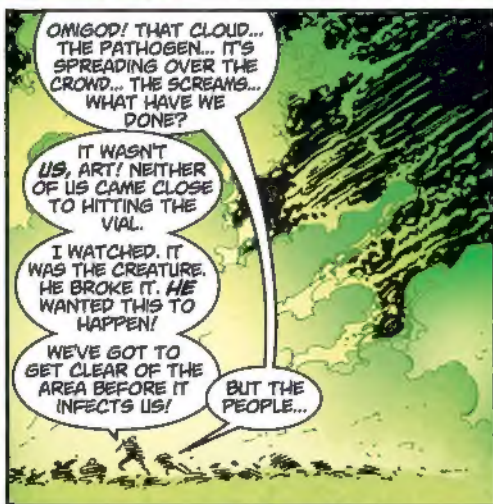
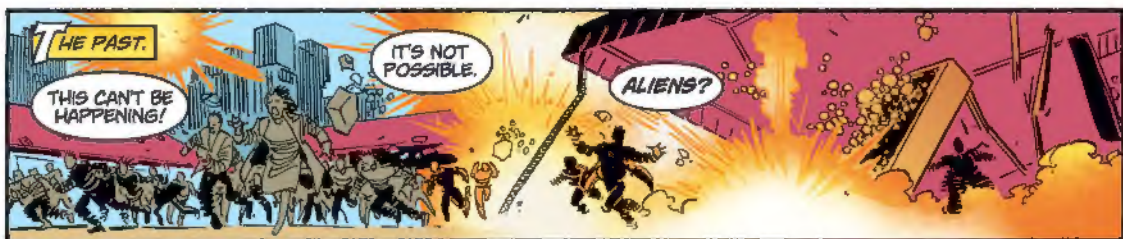
I PLAN ON  
HELPING  
HIM.

WITH  
JUST ONE  
OR TWO  
CAVEATS.



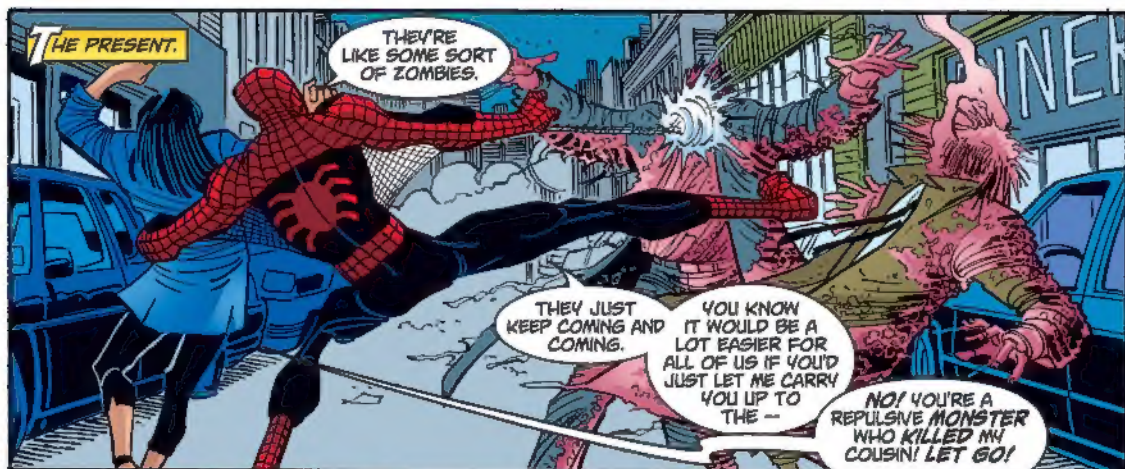






Strategic Hazard Intervention  
Espionage Logistics Directorate  
-- Ralf, James Ralf.

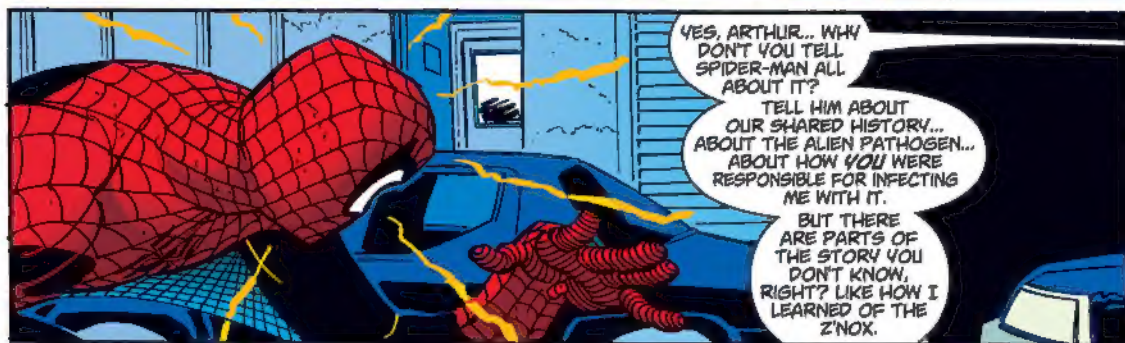








TALK TO ME,  
ARTHUR!  
WHAT IS  
GOING ON  
HERE?



YES, ARTHUR... WHY  
DON'T YOU TELL  
SPIDER-MAN ALL  
ABOUT IT?

TELL HIM ABOUT  
OUR SHARED HISTORY...  
ABOUT THE ALIEN PATHOGEN...  
ABOUT HOW YOU WERE  
RESPONSIBLE FOR INFECTING  
ME WITH IT.

BUT THERE  
ARE PARTS OF  
THE STORY YOU  
DON'T KNOW,  
RIGHT? LIKE HOW I  
LEARNED OF THE  
Z'NOX.



LIKE HOW I  
SURVIVED AND  
ESCAPED FROM  
S.H.I.E.L.D.

HOW THE PATHOGEN  
HAS BEEN LAYING  
DORMANT WITHIN MY  
BODY FOR ALL THESE  
YEARS, THOUGH  
YOU SURELY  
SUSPECTED.

WAITING.

WAITING FOR THE  
RETURN OF THE Z'NOX  
TO RELEASE IT UPON  
THE WORLD.

GUESS WHAT,  
ARTHUR.  
THEY'RE  
HERE.

**NEXT ISSUE:  
PLAGUE!**

(OUR MOMENTOUS  
MAXIMUM SECURITY  
CROSSOVER!)

